

MINUTES OF MEETING  
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI  
**Location: American Legion Post #1450, Halfmoon, NY**

Meeting Date: October 15, 2003

The September meeting for the **2004 USSVI Convention Committee** was called to order at 7:30 pm by George Gasser. There were 17 members present.

A finalized copy of the Convention Registration and Trips Registration was passed around to the members and approved. It will be posted on the web site and in the American Submariner Magazine. We will have 3 pages in the magazine, the two registration pages and one map page which will be developed in the next week or so.

Chairman Gasser reported the following:

- The US Navy Band will perform a free concert on 9/17/04 and will march in the parade on 9/18/04
- At this time there are 14 Boat reunions in the planning stages
- RV'ers will be offered 2 choices although at this time the free shuttle is only available at one site.
- No credit cards will be accepted at the Convention but we will accept online (electronic) checks.

#### Marketing

Our marketing strategy will include placing adds the following or similar medias: VFW and American Legion magazines, various Sub Base newspapers and periodicals, and various Submarine Vendor newsletters and other print media.

The promotional video has been completed and is available for distribution. It will be distributed to every Base along with a letter from the Base Commander urging that it be shown to and passed along to their Base members.

Parade – We have invited Admiral Eugene P. Wilkinson (1<sup>st</sup> CO of Nautilus) and William R. (Doc) Charette (Medal of Honor Winner in Korea and qualified in Submarines) to be Grand Marshals. No response has been received from them at this time. (Admiral Fluckey and former President Carter have both declined)

The Elks Club will co-ordinate the parade.

We are still working on main speakers. President George W. Bush has been asked and a request has been made that if he is unable to attend that he send a surrogate. Also, former President George H. Bush has been invited. No response has been received from either of these people. Also invited and still waiting to hear from is CDR Scott Waddle, former Commanding Officer of USS Greenville.

There will be a meeting of Civilian teams – the Steering committee and others in November.

The Tolling of the Boats Ceremony will be at the Grand Banquet. There will be a candle in the shape of Submarine at each table. There will be a card with the name of a lost Submarine on each candle and as the Boats are Tolloed, the corresponding candles will be extinguished. Fred Carlson is getting the particulars on the candles; they will cost approximately \$2.00 to \$3.00 each depending on quantity. They will be given as door prizes after the Banquet and we will purchase additional candles for sale.

We still need help in all areas of fundraising, please volunteer to help in any way you can. Thanks.

The members were polled to see if there was anything else to discuss. Being nothing further, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:        Jim Irwin, Secretary  
                             Albany-Saratoga Base  
                             Pride Runs Deep